

The Humble  
DESIRE S  
And  
PROPOSITIONS  
Of the  
LORD S and COMMONS  
Assembled in PARLIAMENT.

Presented to the KING s most Ex-  
cellent Majesty at Oxford, by foure Lords,  
and eight Members of the House of Commons;

February 1. 1642.

With His

MAJESTIES ANSWER  
thereunto, and six Propositions propounded  
by him to both Houses, to be debated upon,  
with the rest, at the Treaty.

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Die Martis. 7 Febr. 1642.

Ordered by the Lords and Commons Assembled in Parliament,  
that these Desires, with His Majesties Answer, be forthwith  
Printed and Published.

J. Browne, Cler. Parliament.

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Feb. 7. Printed for John Wright in the Old-Bailey. 1642.

MIT. I

The humble Desires of the Lords and Commons Assem-  
bled in Parliament, To the Kings most Excellent Majesty,

WE your Majesties most Humble and Faithfull Sub-  
jects, The Lords and Commons in Parliament As-  
sembled, having in our thoughts the glory of God, your  
Majesties Honour, and the prosperity of your people, and being  
most grievously affrighted with the pressing miseries, and calamities,  
which have overwhelmed your two Kingdome of England  
and Ireland, since your Majesty hath by the perswasion of evill  
Counsellors, withdrawnne your selfe from the Parliament, raised  
an Army against it, and by force thereof protraed Delinquents  
from the Justicie of it, constayning us to take Armes for the de-  
fence of our Religion, Lawes, Liberties, Priviledges of Parlia-  
ment, and for the sitting of the Parliament in safety, which  
feates and dangers are continued and increased by the raising,  
drawing together, and Arming of great numbers of Papists under  
the commanda of the Earle of Newcastle, likewise by making the  
Lord Herbert of Ragland, and other knownde Papists Commanders  
of great Forces, whereby many grievous oppressions, Rapinem  
and Cruelties have bene and are daily exercised upon the persons  
and Estates of your people, much innocent blood hath bin spilt, and  
the Papists have obtained meane of attempting with hope and  
reaching, their mischievous designe of rooting out the reformed  
Religion, and destroying the protestantes therof.

In tender feare and compassion of these evills under which  
your people and Kingdome lyfe ( according to the duty which was  
done to God, your Majestie, and the Kingdome, for which we are  
trustid ) we most earnestly desire, that an end may be put to these  
great distempers and distractiōns, for the prevention of that deso-  
lacion whiche doth threaten all your Majesties dominions; and as  
we have rendred, and still are ready to render, to your Majestie that  
subjection, obedience, and service which we owe unto you, so was  
most humbly beseeched your Majestie to remove the causes of this  
illake, and to haue safe ne that peace and protection whiche we  
and our Ancestors haue formerly enjoyed, under your Majestie  
and your predecessors, and graciouly to accept and geat these  
our most humble desires and propositions.

1. That your Majesty will be pleased to disband your Armies, as we likewise shall be ready to disband all those Forces which we have raised, and that you will be pleased to returne to your Parliament.

2. That you will leave Delinquents to a lawfull tryall and judgement of Parliament.

3. That the Papists may not onely be disbanded, but disarmed according to Law.

4. That your Majesty will be pleased to give your Royall Assent unto the Bill for taking away Superstitions Innovations; to the Bill for the utter abolishing and taking away of all Archbishops, Bishops, their Chancellors and Commissaries, Deanes, Sub-deanes, Deanes and Chapters, Archdeacons, Cannons and Prebendaries, and all Chantors, Chancellors, Treasurers, Sub-Treasurers, Singelors and Sacrists, and all Vicars Choral and Choristers, old Vicars and new Vicars, of any Cathedrall or Collegiate Church, and all other their under Officers, out of the Church of England; to the Bill against Scandalous Ministers; to the Bill against Pluralities; and to the Bill for consultation to be had with Godly, Religious, and Learned Divines: That your Majesty will be pleased to promise to passe such other good Bills for settling of Church Government, as upon Constitution with the Assembly of the said Divines shall be resolved on by both Houses of Parliament, and by them be presented to your Majesty.

5. That your Majesty having express in your Answer to the Nineteene Propositions of both Houses of Parliament, a hearty affection and intention for the rooting out of Popery out of this Kingdome, and that if both the Houses of Parliament can yet find a more effectuall course to disable Jesuits, Priests, and Popish Recusants, from disturbing the State, or deluding the Lawes, that you would willingly give your consent unto it.

That you would be graciously pleased for the better discovery and spedier conviction of Recusants, that an Oath may be established by Act of Parliament, to be administered in such manner as by both Houses shall be agreed on, wherein they shall abjure and renounce the Popes Supremacy, the Doctrine of Transubstantiation, Purgatory, worshipping of the Consecrated Host, Crucifixes and Images; And the refusing of the said Oath, being tendered in such manner as shall be appoynted by Act of Parliament, shall be a sufficient conviction in Law of Recusancie.

And that your Majesty will be graciously pleased to give your Royall Assent unto a Bill for the Education of the Children of Papistick Protestants, in the Protestant Religion.

That for the more effectuall Execution of the Lawes against Popish Recusants, your Majesty will be pleased to consern to a Bill for the true

Levyng of the Penalties against them, and that the same penalties may be  
levyed and dispesed off in such manner as both Houses of Parliament shal  
agree on, so as your Majestie be at no losse: And likewise to a Bill where-  
by the practise of Papists against the State may be prevented, and the  
Lawes against them duly executed.

6 That the Earle of Bristow may be removed from your Majesties  
Councells, and that both he and the Lord Herber, Eldest sonne to the  
Earle of Worcester, may likewise be restrained from comming within the  
Verge of the Court, and that they may not beare any Office, or have any  
imployment concerning the State or Common Wealth.

7 That your Majesty will be graciously pleased by Act of Parliament,  
to settle the *Militia* both by Sea and Land, and for the Forts and Ports of  
the Kingdome in such a manner as shall be agreed on by both Houses.

8 That your Majesty will be pleased by your Letters Patents, to make  
Sir John Bramston Chiefe Justice of your Court of Kings Bench, William  
Lenthall Esquire, the now Speaker of the Commons House, Master of the  
Roles, and to continue the Lord Chiefe Justice Banks, Chiefe Justice of  
the Court of Common Pleas, and likewise to make Master Serjeant Wild  
Chiefe Baron of your Court of the Exchequer, and that Master Justices  
Bacon may be continued, and Master Serjeant Roles and Master Serjeant At-  
kins made Justices of the Kings Bench.

That Master Justice Reeves and Master Justice Foster may be continued,  
and Master Serjeant Pbesam made one of the Justices of your Court  
of Common Pleas.

That Master Serjeant Crewe, Master Samuel Browne, and Master John  
Puleston may be Barons of the Exchequer, and that all these, and all the  
Judges of the same Courts for the time to comes, may hold their place by  
Letters patents under the Great Seal, *Quam dū se bene gesserint*, and that  
the severall persons not before named, that doe hold any of these places  
before mentioned, may be removed.

9 That all such persons as have beane put out of the Commissions of  
peace, or of Oyer and Terminer, or from being *Castiges Rotulorum*, since  
the first day of Aprill 1642, / other then such as were put out by the des-  
ire of both or either of the Houles of Parliament, may against be put into  
those Comissions and Offices, and that such persons may be put out of  
those Comissions and Offices, as shall be excepted against by both Hou-  
les of Parliament.

10 That your Majestie will be pleased to passe the Bill now presented  
to your Majestie to Vindicate and secure the privileges of Parliament  
from the ill Consequence of the late president in the charge and proce-  
ceedings against the Lord Kimbolton now Earle of Manchester, and the five  
Members of the House of Commons.

11 That

11. That your Majesties Royall Assent may be given unto such Acts as shall be advised by both Houses of Parliament, for the satisfying and paying the Debts, and Damages, wherein the two Houses of parliament have engaged the publique Faith of the Kingdome.

12. That your M<sup>r</sup> & S<sup>r</sup> will be pleased according to a gracious Answer heretofore receiv'd from you, to enter into a more strict Alliance with the States of the United Provinces, and other Neighbour Princes and States of the protestant Religion, for the defence & maintenance thereof against all Designes and Attempts of the Popish and Jesuiticall Faction to subvert and suppress it, whereby your Subjects may hope to be free from the Mischiefes which this Kingdome hath endured, through the power which some of that party have had in your Councell, and will be much encouraged in a Parliamentary way, for your Ayd and Assistance in restoring your Royall Sister and the Prince Elector to those Dignities and Dominions which belong unto them, and the relieving the other distressed protestant princes, who have suffered in the same Cause.

13. That in the Generall pardon that your Majesty hath beene pleased to offer to your Subjects, all offences and misdemeanors, committed before the tenth of January, 1641. which have bin or shall be questioned or proceeded against in parliament, upon complaint in the House of Commons, before the tenth of January, 1643. shall be excepted, which offences and misdemeanors shall neverthelette be taken and adjudged to be fully discharged against all other Inferiour Courts; That likewise there shall be an exception of all offences committed by any person or persons which hath or have had any hand or practise in the Rebellion of Ireland, which hath or have given any Counsell, Assistance, or Encouragement to the Rebels there, for the maintenance of that Rebellion, as likewise an exception of William Earle of Newcastle, and George Lord Digby.

14. That your Majesty will be pleased to restore such Members of either House of parliament to their severall places of Service and imployement, out of which they have been put since the beginning of this parliament; That they may receive satisfaction and reparation for those places, and for the profits which they have lost by such removall, upon the petition of both Houses of parliament. And that all others may be restored to their offices and imployements, who have been put out of the same upon any displeasure conceived against them for any assistance given to both Houses of parliament, or obeying their Commands, or contracting to leave their attendance upon the parliament without licence or for any other occasion arising from these unhappy differences betwixt your Majesty and both Houses of parliament, upon the like petition of both Houses.

<sup>2</sup> These things being granted and performed, as it hath alwayes bin our beseecheing  
of you, so shall we be enabled to make it our hopefull endeavouer, that your Maiestie and  
your people may enjoy the blessinges of peace, truce, and justice, the Royalty and grea-  
tess of your Thronē may be supported by the Loyall and lawefull affections of  
your people, their Liberties, and privalledges maintained by your Maiesties pro-  
tection and Justies, and this publique honour and happiness of your Maiestie, and  
all your Dominions, communicated to other Churches and states of your alliance, &  
derived to your Royall posterity, and the future generations in this Kingdome for  
ever.



### His Maiesties Answer to the Desires.

If his Maiestie had not given up all the faculties of his soule  
to an earnest endeavour of a Peace and Reconciliation  
with his People, or if he would suffer himselfe by any prohibi-  
tion to be drawne to a Sharpnesse of Language at a time  
when there seemes somewhat like an Overture of Accommo-  
dation, he could not but resent the heavy charges upon him in  
the preamble of these Propositions, & would not suffer him-  
selfe to be reproached with protesting of belmentes, by force  
from Justice his Maiesties desire having always bin, that  
all men shold be tryed by the knowne Lawe, and having bin  
refused it with raising an Army against his Parliament,  
and to be told that Armes haue bin taken up against him for  
Defence of Religion, Lawes, Liberties, Privilledges of  
Parliament, and for sitting of the Parliament in safety, with  
many other particulars in that preamble, so often, and so ful-  
ly remoued by his Maiestie, without remembraunce the world  
over the time and circumstances of rayning these Armes against  
him, when his Maiestie was so farre from being in a condition  
to indeue other mens Rightes, that he was not able to indeue  
his owne and defend his owne from violence, and without let-  
ting his good Subjects that their Religion (the true Proph-  
ecy of Religion, in which his Maiestie was borne, hath faith-  
fully helpe, and to which he will dye a woulting sacrifice) their  
Religions, Liberties, Privilledges, and safety of Parliament  
were so firmlye setted and established, as offered to be so by his

Majesty, before any Army was raised against him, and long before any raised by him for his defence, that if nothing had bin desired but that Peace and protection which his Subjects and their Ancestors had in the best times enjoyed under his Majesty, or his Royal Predecessors, this mis-understanding and distance betweene his Majesty and his People, and this generall misery and distraction upon the face of the whole Kingdom, had not bin now the discourse of Christendome; but his Majesty will forbear any expressions of bitterness, or of a sense of his owne sufferings, that if it be possible, the memory thereof may be lost to the world, and therefore though many of the Propositions presented to his Majesty by both Houses, appeare to him very derogatory from, and destructive to his just Power and Prerogative, and no way beneficiall to his Subjects, few of them being already due to them by the Lawes established, (and how unparliamentary it is by armes to require new Lawes, all the World may judge) yet because these may be waded or mollified, and many that are now dark or doubtfull in them, cleared and explained (upon debate,) His Majesty is pleased (such is his sense of the miseries this Kingdome suffereth by this unnaturall war, and his earnest desire to remove them by a happy peace) That a speedy time and place bee agreed upon, for the meeting of such Persons as his Majesty and both Houses shall appoint, to discuss these Propositions, and such other's here following, as his Majesty both propose to them,

1. That his Majesties owne Revenue, Magazines, Townes, Ports and Ships, which have beene taken or kept from him by force, be forthwith restored unto him.
2. That whatsoever hath beene done or published contrary to the knowne Lawes of the Land, and derogatory to his Majesties legall and knowne Power and Rights, be renounced and recalled; That no seed may remaine for the like to spring out of for the future.
3. That whatsoever illegal Power hath beene claimed and exercised

exercised by or over his Subjects, as imprisoning their persons without Law, stopping their *Habits & Gospesses*, and imposing upon their Estates without Act of Parliament, &c, either by both or either House, or any Committee by both or either, or by any persons appointed by any of them be disclaimed; and all such persons so committed forthwith discharged.

34. That as his Majesty will readily consent (having done so heretofore) to the execution of all Lawes already made, and to any good Acts to be made for the suppressing of Popery, and for the firme settling of the Protestant Religion now establish'd by Law: So he desires that a good Bill may be drawn for the better preserving of the Booke of Common Prayer from the scorne and violence of *Brownists, Anabaptists* and other Sectaries, with such clauses for the ease of tender Consciences as his Majesty hath formerly offered.

35. That all such Persons as upon the Treaty shall be excepted out of the generall Pardon, shall be tryed *per Pares*, according to the usual course and known Law of the Land, and that it be left to that either to acquit or condemne them.

36. That notwithstanding this Treaty, may no further Interruption by any intervening Accidents, That a cession of Armes, and a free Trade of all his Majesties Subjects be fully agreed upon.

This offer and desire of his Majesty he hopes will be so cheerfully entertained, that a speedy and blessed Peace may be accomplished; if it shall be rejected, or by insisting upon insurmountable Circumstances be made impossible (which he hopes God in his mercy to this Nation will not suffer) the gush of the blood which will be shed, and the desolation which must follow, will lie upon the heads of the refusers.

However, his Majesty is resolved, through what accidents soever hee shall be compelled to recover his Right, and with what prosperous successes soever it shall please God to blesse him, that by his earnest constant endeavours to propagate and promote the true Protestant Religion, and by his governing according to the known Lawes of the Land, and upholding the just Priviledges of Parliament, according to his former Protestant matte before Almighty God, which he will alwaies inviolably observe, the world shall see that he hath undergone all these difficulties and hazards for the defence and maintenance of these. The zealous preservation of which his Majesty well knowes, is the onely foundation and meanes for the true happiness of him and his people.

FINIS.

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